

hackneytoday

Circulated to 108,000 homes and businesses by Hackney Council

Issue 456 16 March 2020

Budget 2020/21



Your guide to
Council Tax, how we
spend your money
and some of the
services you can
expect from your
Council in 2020/21

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Hackney
People

Pull out



Our Homes

 Hackney

‘This budget demonstrates now and forever, we are ambitious for Hackney’



WATCH a video from the Mayor of Hackney about the Council’s priorities for the year ahead at hackney.gov.uk/budget



AT a meeting on **26 February**, councillors agreed the Council’s budget for 2020/21.

I’m proud of this budget. Despite increasingly challenging circumstances, it demonstrates that we are still ambitious for Hackney and

it includes decisions that will benefit Hackney’s residents and businesses, and help to make Hackney fairer, safer, healthier and more sustainable.

Demand for our services is increasing all the time, and our budget shows just how much of our funding we are having to invest in looking after vulnerable

children and adults, on temporary accommodation for homeless families, and other vital services that the Government continues to inadequately fund.

Fairer, healthier, safer, more sustainable

WE will also continue to invest in the services we all value and which make Hackney such a great place to live, like our parks and green spaces, libraries, leisure centres, our cultural events and youth centres.

We will be investing in a new learner pool at London Fields Lido and refurbishing Stoke Newington Library and Hackney Museum.

We will fund cultural events that bring the community together and boost local businesses, including Hackney Carnival, Discover Young Hackney and events to celebrate the Windrush community.

We will invest in services to support people to lead healthier lives. From building a new leisure centre at Britannia, to tackling obesity and supporting people to stop smoking.

Our new rough sleeper outreach team will work with some of our most vulnerable residents, offering them wraparound support, from mental health to housing advice and GP services.

We know that safety is a really important issue for many of our residents, which is why we continue to fund the integrated gangs unit, our unique partnership with the police, probation service and other partners, aimed at



“ We will fund cultural events that bring the community together and boost local businesses ”

supporting people out of gang involvement and into positive opportunities. We will also fund extra police officers and safety initiatives using contributions to the Late Night Levy.

Last year, the Council declared a climate emergency, and making our borough greener and more sustainable runs through the heart of this budget.

For example, we will plan an extra 30,000 trees in our streets, parks and green spaces, and install energy-efficient bulbs in all of our street lights, which in the long term will not just save energy, but also money.

READ the full Budget report at hackney.gov.uk/budget

Community safety

£7.3m to fund enforcement officers, the integrated gangs unit and other work to keep our borough safe

Housing needs and homelessness

£45m on support for rough sleepers and help for those facing homelessness, including temporary accommodation and help to find settled accommodation

Jobs and training

Our employment service Hackney Works supported over 3,000 people this year

Tackling poverty

An extra £500,000 on measures to directly support our poorest residents – including access to fresh food

Services for young people

We will spend £13m on youth services, including our four youth hubs



Council Tax

REGRETTABLY we have had to increase Council Tax by about 90p a week for most people. We know that some people will struggle with this, so we've increased the amount of support available to the 27,000 people on low incomes who qualify for our Council Tax Reduction Scheme.

We also have a discretionary

hardship fund for those who need more help. The Council funds local organisations who also offer a wide range of financial support and advice.

Our employment support service, Hackney Works, supported over 3,000 people into work or training this year, and we have over 100 apprentices working at the Council.

We are investing in Hackney despite our budget challenge, and seeking to help more of our residents with their own budget challenges. For example, this budget includes an extra £500,000 to directly support our poorest residents, including help for families in food poverty to access fresh, healthy food.

Council Tax valuation bands								
	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
Hackney Council	£786.40	£917.48	£1,048.54	£1,179.61	£1,441.74	£1,703.88	£1,966.01	£2,359.22
GLA	£221.38	£258.28	£295.17	£332.07	£405.86	£479.66	£553.45	£664.14
Total	£1,007.78	£1,175.76	£1,343.71	£1,511.68	£1,847.60	£2,183.54	£2,519.46	£3,023.36

Our budget challenge

SINCE 2010, our core Government funding has shrunk by nearly half. This is not unique – cuts to local government mean councils across the country have lost 60p out of every £1.

In Hackney, we have seen the biggest funding cut per household of any London borough, at £1,459.

At the same time, we face additional costs from increasing demands for services, mostly due to cuts to other public services, the housing crisis and welfare reform.

For example we will spend

£45m on support for rough sleepers and help for those facing homelessness, including temporary accommodation.

We will look after over 400 children in care and will spend £108m on social care for vulnerable adults, helping them stay in their own homes and remain independent.

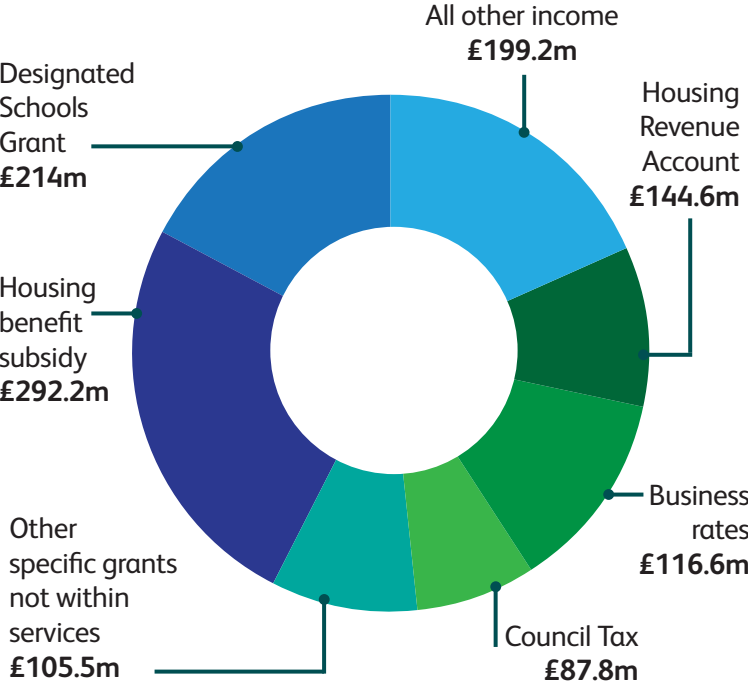
Early indications suggest that in the coming years, London could lose £400m under the Government's funding plans, continuing austerity for many years

to come. We will continue to make Hackney's voice heard, by lobbying the Government for a fairer deal for areas like ours, and we will always involve our residents and partners when we have difficult decisions to make about funding for services.

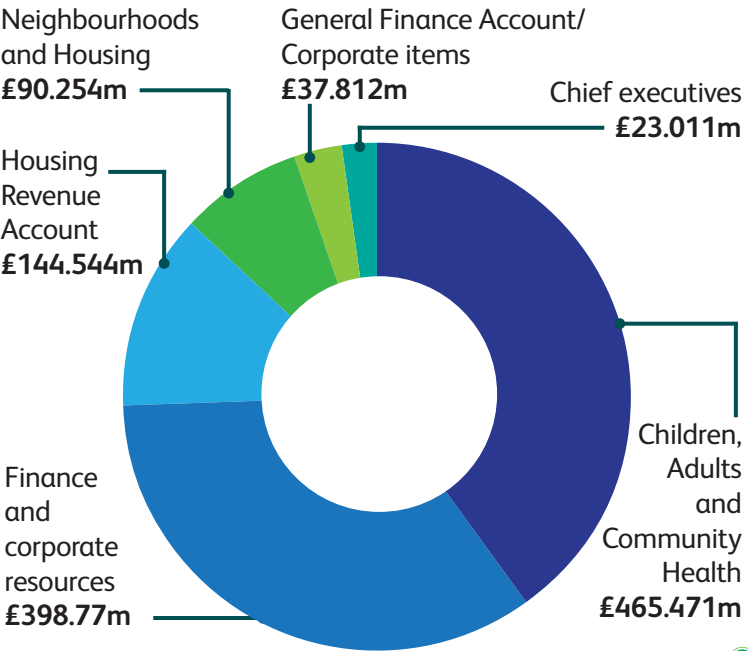
As this budget demonstrates – now, more than ever – we are ambitious for Hackney.

Philip Glanville
Philip Glanville
Mayor of Hackney

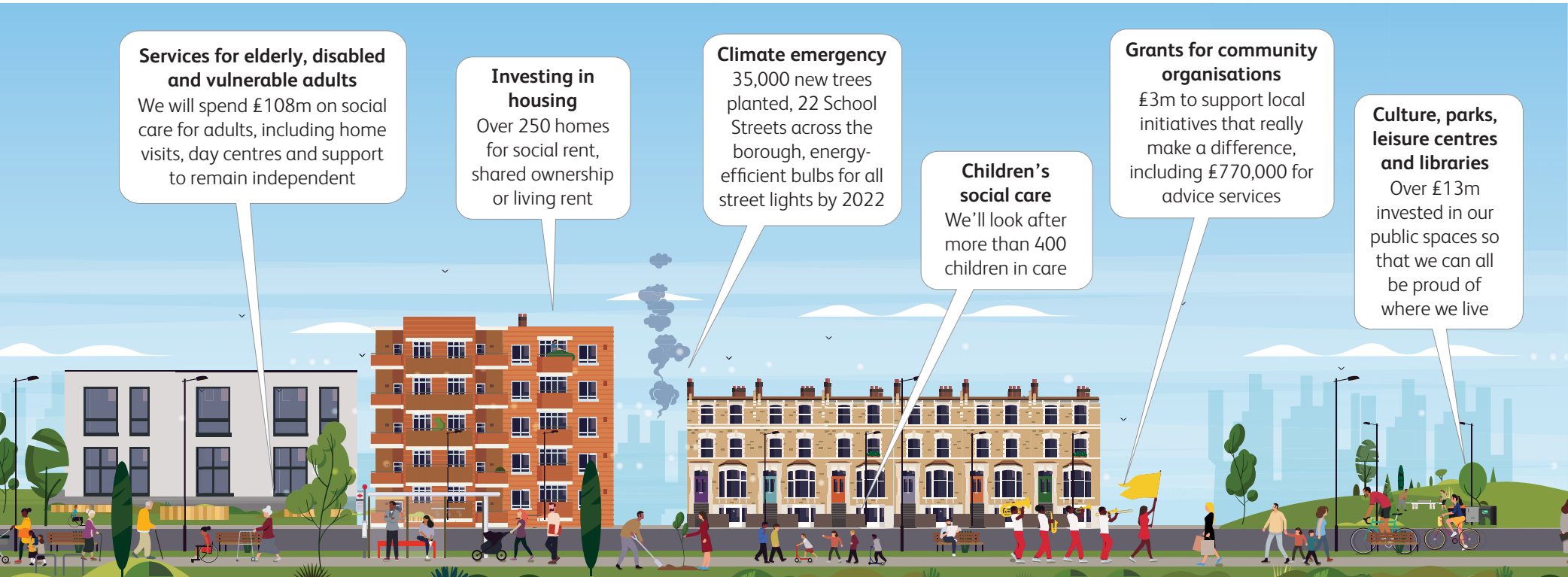
For more information about the Council's budget, the Adult Social Care Precept and what the Council spends on services write to: **Council Tax, Hackney Service Centre, 1 Hillman Street, London, E8 1DY**



Where our funding comes from...



... and how we spend it



one account

Access Council services online in
one place with One Account.

- Council Tax
- Business rates
- Housing repairs
- Voter registration
- Housing Benefit
- Appointments



Sign up and save time with
your tablet, computer or
smartphone at:
www.hackney.gov.uk

Need support paying your Council Tax?

You may be entitled to support
to help pay your Council
Tax through the Council Tax
Reduction Scheme or the Council
Tax Discretionary Fund.

Working age people can receive an award of up to 85 % of their Council Tax through the Council Tax Reduction Scheme. This award is means tested and available to those whose income is below an amount set by the Council.

Those who receive support through the Council Tax Reduction Scheme, but are unable to pay the remaining 15 % of their Council Tax, may be able to get extra help through the Council Tax Discretionary Fund – a pot of money to provide short term assistance to those in financial difficulties.

Those who apply for the fund are also able to access advice around debt and money management.

